

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Terayama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,645,741) taken with Stava (U.S. Patent No. 5,148,001).

The Applicants traverse the rejections and request reconsideration.

Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Rejection of claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) based on Terayama et al. taken with Stava

The Examiner maintains the rejection of the claims based on the combined teachings of Terayama and Stava on essentially the same grounds. In responding to the Applicants' arguments, the Examiner contends that in the voltage/current graph of Fig. 3, Terayama shows that his auxiliary power supply has a larger open circuit voltage than the main power supply. The Examiner notes that both the auxiliary and main power supplies are connected to the same transformer primary. Apparently, according to the Examiner, the only way to achieve the difference in voltages is by providing different secondary windings for T1.

The Applicants disagree. Moreover, Figs. 3 & 5 clearly show the same number of secondary windings for the coil providing power to DR4 and DR1. There appears to be no discussion in Terayama contradicting this. Therefore, the Examiner is clearly mischaracterizing the teachings of Terayama.

The Examiner contends that "an output voltage of the current circuit 10 is higher than an output voltage of the second rectifier circuit 5" is disclosed on Figs. 3 and 5. However, this is believed to be incorrect as Terayama clearly shows the same number of secondary windings for

the coil providing power to DR4 and DR1. Further, the voltage/current graph of Fig. 3, namely on Fig. 2 of Terayama, indicates the contrary characteristic at the timing of Is3 being short-circuited (P1). In other words, the output voltage of Auxiliary power source becomes lower than the output of Main Power at said timing.

On the other hand, the present invention does not show such a reversed voltage characteristic as disclosed in Terayama. Rather, an output voltage of the current circuit 10 is always higher than an output voltage of the second rectifier circuit 5. Such a relationship is always maintained as required by 1.

Claims 2 and 3 are dependent on claim 1 and, therefore, are allowable for at least the same reasons.

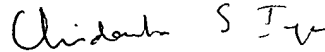
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116
U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/781,911
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Attorney Docket No.: Q79997

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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